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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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Total Number of Pages in This Submission 9

Application Number	09/974,973
Filing Date	October 12, 2001
First Named Inventor	Paul D. Hanke
Art Unit	1652
Examiner Name	Slobodyansky, E.
Attorney Docket Number	031001

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
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Remarks

Please file the enclosed amendment and reply. Kindly stamp and return the enclosed postcard.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Buchanan Ingersoll PC		
Signature			
Printed name	Duane A. Stewart III		
Date	January 5, 2005	Reg. No.	54,468

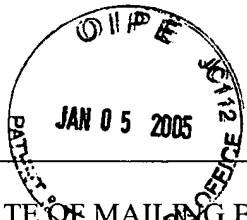
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	IN RE APPLICATION OF: Paul D. Hanke	
	Application Serial No.: 09/974,973	Filing Date: October 12, 2001
	Title: Feedback-Resistant Pyruvate Carboxylase Gene From Corynebacterium	
	Group Art Unit 1652	Examiner Slobodyansky, E.

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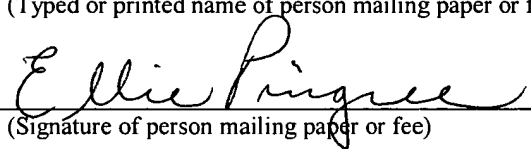
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : **PATENT APPLICATION**
:
Paul D. Hanke : **FEEDBACK-RESISTANT PYRUVATE**
: **CARBOXYLASE GENE FROM**
: ***CORYNEBACTERIUM***
Serial No.: 09/974,973 :
: **Group Art Unit: 1652**
Filed: October 12, 2001 : **Examiner: Slobodyansky, E.**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
January 5, 2005

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AMENDMENT E AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICIAL
ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Official Action mailed November 15, 2004, in connection with the above-captioned application having a statutory period for response set to expire February 15, 2005. This Amendment and Reply is submitted within the two month period of the mailing date of the Final Action. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue an Advisory Action before the end of the three month statutory period ending February 15, 2005. The Examiner's rejections have been carefully considered and in view of the following remarks and amendments, reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims is courteously requested.

Please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this Amendment.

Remarks/Arguments begins on page 6 of this Amendment.